Case 3103

Orsodacne Latreille, 1802 (Insecta, Coleoptera): proposed conservation by the designation of *Chrysomela cerasi* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to conserve the long understanding and usage of the generic name *Orsodacne* Latreille, 1802 for a holarctic group of leaf beetles (family CHRYSOMELIDAE). The genus was originally based on a single species of uncertain identity but in 1810 Latreille himself designated *Chrysomela cerasi* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type. This species has been treated as the type since that date. Species of *Orsodacne* are pests on cultivated plants.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; CHRYSOMELIDAE; *Orsodacne*; *Lema*; *Orsodacne cerasi*; leaf beetles; plant pests.

1. The genus *Orsodacne* was introduced by Latreille (1802, p. 223) with the single included species '*Lema ruficollis* Fabricius'. In 1787 Fabricius (p. 88) had described a species *Crioceris ruficollis* from 'Cajennae'; this was subsequently placed in his new genus *Lema* by Fabricius (1798, p. 91) and is still currently known as *Lema ruficollis*. However, Latreille did not indicate that his new genus was South American.

2. Later Latreille (1804, p. 349) gave a more complete description of *Orsodacne*, mentioning the same distinguishing characters. He included in the genus two species from France, called *Orsodacna* (sic) *chlorotica* (i.e. *Crioceris chlorotica* Olivier, 1791) and *Orsodacna* (sic) *humeralis* Latreille, 1804. These two nominal species have been included in *Orsodacne* since 1804 (see, for example, Clavareau, 1913), the former listed as a synonym of *O. cerasi* (Linnaeus, 1758), the latter as a synonym of *O. lineola* (Panzer, 1795), which is a junior primary homonym that must be replaced by Latreille's name *humeralis*. Latreille (1804) also gave as a synonym of *O. chlorotica* the name *Crioceris fulvicollis* Fabricius, 1792 (p. 5), which has subsequently been listed in the synonymy of *O. cerasi*. The question arises whether *fulvicollis* was the species that Latreille had meant two years earlier when he mentioned '*ruficollis*'.

3. Still later, in a work that has been considered to contain the first designations of type species for insect genera, Latreille himself (1810, p. 431) designated the European species '*Crioceris cerasi* Fab.' (i.e. *Chrysomela cerasi* Linnaeus, 1758, p. 376) as the type of *Orsodacne*. This species has consistently been treated as the type of the genus.

4. Under the Code *Crioceris ruficollis* (now *Lema ruficollis*) is the type species of *Orsodacne* by original monotypy. Yet since 1804 a different use of *Orsodacne* has been stable, as shown by the following recently-published representative works in which the name has appeared: Lindroth (Ed., 1960), Arnett (1960–1962), Gressitt &

Kimoto (1961), Gurjeva & Kryzhanovskij (Eds., 1965), Brakman (1966), Mann & Crowson (1981), Seeno & Wilcox (1982), Gruev & Tomov (1984), Lucht (1987), Suzuki (1988), Medvedev & Dubeshko (1992), Jolivet & Hawkeswood (1995), Hansen (1996) and Pileckis & Monsevicius (1997). The genus *Orsodacne* is not large, but some of the species have been reported as damaging cultivated plants, and furthermore the genus is the base of the family-group name ORSODACNIDAE Thomson, 1859 (p. 154). Generally this taxon has been treated as a subfamily within CHRYSOMELIDAE; Böving & Craighead (1931, p. 63) elevated it to full family rank and this has lately been followed by Lawrence & Newton (1995).

5. Recognition of *Crioceris ruficollis* Fabricius, 1787, which has been placed in *Lema* since Fabricius's (1798) description of the genus, as the type species of *Orsodacne* Latreille, 1802 would render the name *Orsodacne* a junior subjective synonym of *Lema*. A new name would be needed for *Orsodacne* as currently understood, a change that would cause considerable confusion. The name *Lema* Fabricius, 1798 relates to a large worldwide genus of leaf beetles (family CHRYSOMELIDAE, subfamily CRIOCERINAE) with many pests on several important cultivated plants; the type of the genus is the European *Chrysomela cyanella* Linnaeus, 1758, of which *L. puncticollis* (Curtis, 1830) is a junior synonym. I propose that *Chrysomela cerasi* Linnaeus, 1758 be designated as the type species of *Orsodacne* Latreille, 1802, in accord with Latreille's own (1810) designation.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary power to set aside all previous fixations of type species for the nominal genus *Orsodacne* Latreille, 1802 and to designate *Chrysomela cerasi* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species;

(2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Orsodacne* Latreille, 1802 (gender: feminine), type species by designation under the plenary power in (1) above *Chrysomela cerasi* Linnaeus, 1758;

(3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *cerasi* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Chrysomela cerasi* (specific name of the type species of *Orsodacne* Latreille, 1802).

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